

REMARKS

Responsive to the lack of unity determination imposed in the outstanding Official Action mailed February 12, 2007, applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-16, with traverse.

The grounds for traverse are that all of the claims in their full scope relate to a "special technical feature". Claims 1-16 are drawn to a method of determining sequences of nucleic acid molecules. While claim 17 of Group II relates to a mixture of labeled and unlabeled nucleotides, applicants note that these labeled and unlabeled nucleotides may be used within the context of the method recited by claims 1-16 of Group I.

Furthermore, claim 18 does not relate to mixtures of labeled and unlabeled nucleotides. Rather, claim 18 relates to a technique of carrying out the method of claims 1-16. In this regard, applicants respectfully request that at the very least, claim 18 of Group II, be examined with claims 1-16 of Group I.

Additionally, applicants note that the International Search Report provided a search and examination of all claims 1-18. Thus, the Examiner of the present application has the benefit of the International search report, yet does not explain why an opposite conclusion concerning the unity of the claims is reached in the national stage application of the international application. In light of the benefit provided by the International search report, applicants respectfully submit that

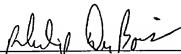
the Patent Office cannot now contend that a search and examination of all the claims presents an undue burden on the Patent Office.

In view of the above, applicants respectfully request a search and examination of all the claims in their full scope. At the very least, applicants respectfully request that claim 18 be examined in its full scope with claims 1-16.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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